(f) the steps to be taken by Government to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) A large number of posts of UDCs exist in different Ministries, Departments, attached and subordinate offices of the Government. Information in respect of stagnation or otherwise is not centrally maintained. However, Assured Career Progression Scheme has been introduced by the Government to mitigate the problem of stagnation of employees including UDCs.

(c) and (d) Information is not centrally maintained.

(e) There is generally a time gap between occurrence of vacancies and filling up thereof as recruitment is a continuous process. Some posts remain unfilled due to reasons like non-availability of requisite number of reserved category candidates; etc.

(f) In order to fill up vacancies reserved for SCs and STs, various relaxations and concessions are given. In case of direct recruitment, SCs/ STs get concessions like relaxation in upper age limit by five years, exemption from payment of examination/application fee, relaxation in qualification regarding experience at the discretion of UPSC/competent authority, relaxation in standards of suitability, etc. in case of promotion they get concessions like extension of zone of consideration to five times the number of vacancies in case suitable SC/ST candidates are not available within the normal zone of consideration, relaxation in marks/standards of evaluation, relaxation in upper age limit by five years, where the prescribed upper age limit for promotion does not exceed 50 years etc. The Government has issued guidelines for conducting a Special Recruitment Drive to fill the backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs/ and STs both in direct recruitment quota and promotion quota.

Reservation in services

1754. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after 57 years of Independence, the Group 'A'& 'B' Posts meant for SCs and all the posts meant for STs have not been filled up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had provided relaxations and concessions to these communities in respect of employment in above posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) There is generally a time gap between occurrence of vacancies and filling up thereof as recruitment is a continuous process. Some posts remain unfilled due to reasons like non-availability of requisite number of reserved category candidates, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Reservation in *in-situ* Promotion

1755. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reservation is applied only in regular and ad-hoc promotion and not in *in-situ* promotion/personnel upgradation and ACP Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons as well as the major differences between ad-hoc promotion and *in-situ* promotion/personnel upgradation and ACP Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) Reservation is available in case of regular as well as ad hoc promotions which are related to vacancies in the higher grades. However, under the ACP Scheme and the *in-situ* promotion scheme for non-medical scientists etc., all qualifying employees are given benefit without linking it to availability of vacancies. There is, therefore, no specific provision for reservation.

Contract Workers

1756. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that under the contract system, workers employed in Central Government offices in various capacities are not being paid the whole sum which the contractors are drawing from Treasury on their account;